

Message Text

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14-10

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 /013 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3413

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC RW

SUBJECT: DE GALBERG ESTATE: EVICTION AMCIT DETERRED

REF: STATE 27116

1. GOR OFFICIALS ARRIVED BUGOYI GUESTHOUSE A.M. FEB 27 WITH MIN PUBLIC WORKS LETTER (BASED ON INSTRUCTIONS PRESIDENCY) AUTHORIZING INVENTORY MOVABLE PROPERTY AND THAT AMCIT KILE AND FAMILY (BAPTIST CHURCHES RWANDA) VACATE IMMEDIATELY. KILE ASSISTED WITH INVENTORY AND TELEPHONED EMBASSY. HE ADVISED STAY PUT AND AMB SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED ON SEC GEN PRESIDENCY BUREGEYA RECOUNTING COMPLEX LEGAL STATUS DE GALBERG ESTATE, GOOD WILL OF KILE FAMILY AND WHAT APPEARED BE EXCESSIVE ZEAL BY A FEW GOR OFFICIALS WHICH INCOMPATIBLE TENOR PAST EMB-GOR DISCUSSIONS. SEC GEN PROMISED LOOK INTO SITUATION. KILE LATER TELEPHONED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED HE AND FAMILY COULD REMAIN "TEMPORARILY" WHILE SEEKING NEW QUARTERS.

2. AMB CALLED ON MIN PUBLIC WORKS MARCH 7 AND REVIEWED HISTORY AND COMPLEXITY OF CASE (INCLUDING HAFNER CLAIM) WITH IMPLICATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL AND USG LAWS. MINISTER RECOGNIZED KILE INCONVENIENCE, NOTED GOR PURSUING MATTER OF BAPTIST COMPENSATION AND KILE WOULD NOT BE TREATED BRUSQUELY. HOWEVER, GOR NEEDED PROPERTY FOR TOURISM PURPOSES IN VERY NEAR FUTURE.

2. COMMENT:

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A. EMB UNDERSTANDS PAUL OKKEN (GBFMS OFFICIAL AND STILL ABER LEGAL REP RWANDA) INTENDS VISIT RWANDA END MARCH TO ARRANGE GOR SETTLEMENT OF BAPTIST INTERESTS. WE ALSO BELIEVE OKKEN AND HAFFNER ARE AVOIDING CONTACT.

B. AS NOTED STATE 201618, RESOLUTION DE GALBERG ESTATE IS TRILATERAL MATTER AND USG OBLIGATION SUPPORT AMCIT HAFFNER'S INTERESTS WILL DEPEND UPON WHETHER HE CAN ESTABLISH "DILIGENCE TO PERFECT HIS TITLE". IN THAT REGARD, WE SUSPECT FAILURE TO PAY TAXES ON PROPERTY SINCE AT LEAST 1968 (FOLLOWING GOR REQUEST) PLUS CURRENT DELAY OF OVER SIX MONTHS IN UNDERTAKING ANY ACTION WILL MITIGATE AGAINST HIM.

C. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS INDICATE BAPTISTS WILL VACATE BUGOYI IN NEAR FUTURE (STATUS CYBINI PLANTATION UNCLEAR). AS INDICATED KIGALI 539 OF OCT 3, 1974, EMB IS NOT DISPOSED ACT FURTHER ON HAFFNER'S INTEREST UNLESS OR UNTIL HE TAKES SOME POSITIVE ACTION WITH GOR. EVEN THEN EMB ATTITUDE WILL DEPEND ON MERITS HIS CASE FOR WHICH WE WILL SEEK DEPT'S GUIDANCE. FRITTS

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